

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate, comprising:

a receiving part that receives a ~~personal certificate~~; certificate associated with an individual user;

a verifying part that verifies the received personal certificate based on a digital signature technique;

an extracting part that extracts at least one of a plurality of predetermined elements in a subject name included in the received personal certificate; and

~~a determination-determining part that determines an access right of a holder of the personal certificate~~ the individual user based on a value of the extracted at least one of the plurality of predetermined element elements, when the personal certificate is successfully verified;

wherein the plurality of predetermined elements includes an at least one element allocated for representing a project; project, and because the access right is determined based on the extracted element value, accessing a database or a directory service to determine the access right is unnecessary.

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate according to claim 1, wherein the at least one of the plurality of predetermined elements is an organizational unit name of a predetermined hierarchy of the subject name.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A web server computer ~~system~~ system, comprising:

a receiving part that receives a personal ~~certificate~~; certificate associated with an individual user;

a verifying part that verifies the received personal certificate based on a digital signature technique;

an extracting part that extracts at least one of a plurality of predetermined elements in a subject name included in the received personal certificate; and

a ~~determination-determining~~ part that determines an access right of ~~a holder of the personal certificate~~ the individual user based on a value of the extracted at least one of the plurality of predetermined ~~element elements~~, ~~when the received personal certificate is successfully verified~~;

wherein the plurality of predetermined elements includes an element allocated for representing a ~~project~~. project, and because the access right is determined based on the extracted element value, accessing a database or a directory service to determine the access right is unnecessary.

5. (Currently Amended) A web server computer ~~system~~ system, comprising:

a receiving part that receives a personal ~~certificate~~; certificate associated with an individual user;

a verifying part that verifies the received personal certificate based on a digital signature technique;

an allocating part that allocates a session identifier when the received personal certificate is successfully verified;

an extracting part that extracts at least one of a plurality of predetermined elements in a subject name included in the received personal certificate;

a ~~determination-determining~~ part that determines an access right of ~~a holder of the personal certificate~~ the individual user based on a value of the extracted at least one of the

plurality of predetermined element elements; when the received personal certificate is successfully verified; and

a memory that stores the determined access right of the individual user associated with the session identifier,

wherein the plurality of predetermined elements includes an element allocated for representing a ~~project~~ project, and because the access right is determined based on the extracted element value, accessing a database or a directory service to determine the access right is unnecessary.

6. (Currently Amended) The web server computer system according to claim 5, wherein the at least one of the plurality of predetermined elements is an organizational unit name of a predetermined hierarchy of the subject name.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate, the apparatus comprising:

a receiving part that receives ~~the a personal certificate;~~ associated with an individual user;

an extracting part that extracts at least one of a plurality of predetermined element elements in a subject name included in the received personal certificate; and

a ~~determination-determining~~ part that determines an access right of the individual user based on a value of the extracted at least one of the plurality of predetermined elements, the extracted at least one of the plurality of predetermined elements being an organizational unit name of based on an organization to of which a holder belongs the individual user is a member and an attribute other than a personal ID represented by a value of the at least one predetermined element, personal ID,

wherein because the access right is determined based on the extracted element value, accessing a database or a directory service to determine the access right is unnecessary.

~~wherein the at least one predetermined element in the subject name represents a project.~~

9. (Original) The apparatus for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate according to claim 8, wherein the organizational unit name ~~of a predetermined hierarchy of the subject name represents~~ indicates that the ~~holder of the certificate individual user~~ is not a member of ~~an the~~ organization represented by the ~~organization organizational unit name~~ and that the ~~holder individual user~~ cooperates with the organization.

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate according to claim 8, wherein the organizational unit name ~~of a predetermined hierarchy of the subject name represents~~ a project name in which the ~~holder individual user~~ takes part.

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate according to claim 8, wherein the organizational unit name ~~of a predetermined hierarchy of the subject name represents~~ a cooperating organization name which cooperates with ~~an the~~ organization represented by the ~~organization organizational unit name~~ and ~~to of which the holder belongs.~~ individual user is a member.

12-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A method for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate, comprising:

~~receiving a personal certificate;~~ certificate associated with an individual user;

verifying the received personal certificate based on a digital signature

technique;

extracting at least one of a plurality of predetermined elements in a subject name included in the received personal certificate; and

determining an access right of ~~a holder of the personal certificate~~ the individual user based on a value of the extracted at least one of the plurality of predetermined element elements, ~~when the personal certificate is successfully verified~~;

wherein the plurality of predetermined elements includes an element allocated for representing ~~a project~~ project, and because the access right is determined based on the extracted element value, accessing a database or a directory service to determine the access right is unnecessary.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate, the method comprising:

receiving ~~the a personal certificate~~ certificate associated with an individual user;

extracting at least one of a plurality of predetermined element elements in a subject name included in the received personal certificate; and

determining an access right of the individual user based on a value of the extracted at least one of the plurality of predetermined elements, the extracted at least one of the plurality of predetermined elements being an organizational unit name of ~~based on an organization to of which a holder belongs~~ the individual user is a member and an attribute other than a ~~personal ID represented by a value of the at least one predetermined element~~, personal ID,

wherein because the access right is determined based on the extracted element value, accessing a database or a directory service to determine the access right is unnecessary.

~~wherein the at least one predetermined element in the subject name represents a project.~~

17. (Currently Amended) A storage medium readable by a computer, the storage medium storing a program of instructions executable by the computer to perform a function for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate, the function ~~comprising the steps of:~~ comprising:

~~receiving a personal certificate;~~ certificate associated with an individual user;

verifying the received personal certificate based on a digital signature

technique;

extracting at least one of a plurality of predetermined elements in a subject name included in the received personal certificate; and

determining an access right of ~~a holder of the personal certificate~~ the individual user based on a value the extracted at least one of the plurality of predetermined ~~element elements, when the personal certificate is successfully verified,~~

wherein the plurality of predetermined elements includes an element allocated for representing ~~a project.~~ project, and because the access right is determined based on the extracted element value, accessing a database or a directory service to determine the access right is unnecessary.

18. (Currently Amended) A storage medium readable by a computer, the storage medium storing a program of instructions executable by the computer to perform a function for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate, the function comprising:

~~receiving the personal certificate;~~ certificate associated with an individual user;

extracting at least one of a plurality of predetermined ~~element elements~~ in a subject name included in the received personal certificate; and

determining an access right of the individual user based on a value of the extracted at least one of the plurality of predetermined elements, the extracted at least one of the plurality of predetermined elements being an organizational unit name of ~~based on an~~

organization ~~to of~~ which a holder ~~belongs the~~ individual user is a member and an attribute other than a personal ID represented by a value of the at least one predetermined element, personal ID,

wherein because the access right is determined based on the extracted element value, accessing a database or a directory service to determine the access right is unnecessary.

~~wherein the at least one predetermined element in the subject name represents a project.~~

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate, comprising:

a receiving part that receives a personal ~~certificate~~; certificate associated with an individual user;

a verifying part that verifies the received personal certificate based on a digital signature technique;

an extracting part that extracts at least one of a plurality of predetermined elements in a hierarchy of a subject name included in the received personal certificate; and

a ~~determination-determining~~ part that determines an access right of ~~a holder of the personal certificate~~ the individual user based on a value of the extracted at least one of the plurality of predetermined element elements, ~~when the personal certificate is successfully verified~~,

wherein the plurality of predetermined elements includes an organizational unit name allocated for representing a project name and a common name allocated for representing a purpose of operation of the ~~project~~. project, and because the access right is determined based on the extracted element value, accessing a database or a directory service to determine the access right is unnecessary.

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of predetermined elements further ~~include an~~ includes at least one element allocated for representing a purpose of operation to be operated by the ~~holder of the personal certificate.~~ individual user.

22. (Currently Amended) The web server computer system according to claim 4, wherein the plurality of predetermined elements further ~~include an~~ includes at least one element allocated for representing a purpose of operation to be operated by the ~~holder of the personal certificate.~~ individual user.

23. (Currently Amended) The web server computer system according to claim 5, wherein the plurality of predetermined elements further ~~include an~~ includes at least one element allocated for representing a purpose of operation to be operated by the ~~holder of the personal certificate.~~ individual user.

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the ~~at least one~~ plurality of predetermined element in a hierarchy of the subject name elements further ~~represents~~ includes at least one element allocated for representing a purpose of operation to be operated by the ~~holder of the personal certificate.~~ individual user.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the plurality of predetermined elements further ~~include an~~ includes at least one element allocated for representing a purpose of operation to be operated by the ~~holder of the personal certificate.~~ individual user

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the ~~at least one~~ plurality of predetermined element elements further ~~represents~~ includes at least one element allocated for representing a purpose of operation to be operated by the ~~holder of the personal certificate.~~ individual user.

27. (Currently Amended) The storage medium of claim 17, wherein the plurality of predetermined elements further ~~include an~~ includes at least one element allocated for representing a purpose of operation to be operated by the ~~holder of the personal certificate~~. individual user.

28. (Currently Amended) The storage medium for storing a program of instructions of claim 18, wherein the ~~at least one~~ plurality of predetermined element elements further ~~represents~~ includes at least one element allocated for representing a purpose of operation to be operated by the ~~holder of the personal certificate~~. individual user.